



SUBJECT: Physical Plant

Policy: 601.3 Tobacco Use

Effective: January 2011 **Revised:** July 2019

Reviewed: August 2023

Introduction and Purpose

Tobacco usage, nicotine delivery system usage, and secondhand smoke have been identified by the Surgeon General to be the cause of preventable diseases. Additionally, in 2009, the Montana legislature decreed that the "right to breath smoke-free air has priority over the desire to smoke" ([Montana Code Annotated 50-40-102](#)). It is the policy of Great Falls College MSU (GFC MSU) to promote the health, wellness, and safety of all employees, students, guests, visitors, and contractors while on campus property. The purpose of this policy is to create a healthier learning environment. Therefore, all use of smoking, tobacco, and nicotine delivery products on campus property is strictly prohibited.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, "smoking and tobacco products" include, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, bidi, hookahs, smokeless tobacco, chewing tobacco, dip, snuff, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, and any other product packaged for smoking, the simulation of smoking or that may be considered a gateway to smoking or tobacco use. FDA Approved cessation devices are permissible.

Policy

- A. The use of smoking by all persons is prohibited on all properties owned or leased by GFC MSU, including:
 - a. all interior and exterior spaces.
 - b. all vehicles leased or owned by GFC MSU.
- B. Advertising, sale, or distribution of smoking and tobacco products is prohibited on GFC MSU's property.
- C. Smoking and tobacco industry and related company sponsorship of campus groups, events, individuals, and departments is prohibited. This includes scholarships, sponsorship of faculty positions, and recruiting for employment.
- D. Littering any GFC MSU property with the remains of tobacco products is prohibited.
- E. Organizers and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, and cultural events using GFC MSU property are required to abide by GFC MSU's tobacco-free policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating the policy to attendees and for enforcing this policy.

Compliance

All persons are required to comply with this policy, which shall remain in effect at all times. Refusal to comply with this policy may be cause for disciplinary action in accordance with employee and student conduct policies. Refusal to comply with the policy by visitors, guests and contractors may be grounds for removal from campus.

Exceptions

The following activities may be conducted as exceptions to the policy subject to advance approval as indicated.

- A. The use of smoking and tobacco products in laboratory experiments including all research that involves the use of smoking and tobacco on campus must be approved in advance by the CEO/Dean or designee. Such use must be preceded by reasonable advance notice to the public. Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit research on smoking and tobacco companies or smoking and tobacco products.
- B. Specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. sections [1996](#) and [1996a](#) allow for the use of ceremonial tobacco. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the CEO/Dean or designee.